



# Missouri Storm Drain Stenciling Project



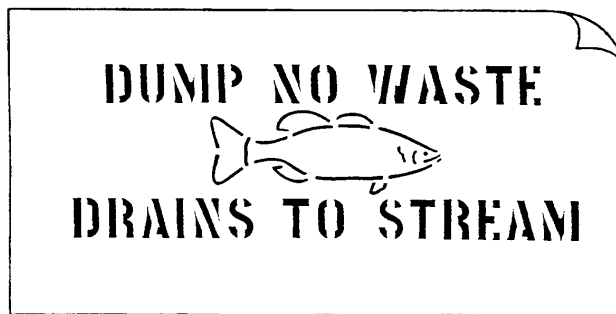
## Bass Take To The Streets!

In order to protect our water resources, people around the country are organizing storm drain stenciling and community education programs. The stenciled message, “Dump No Waste, Drains to Stream,” provides a visible reminder of the consequences of improper waste disposal in storm drains. Now, the Storm Drain Stenciling Project is available in Missouri through the STREAM TEAM program. The Project involves stenciling storm drains, a litter clean-up, and a community education campaign.

## Storm Drains and Water Quality

Storm drains are sometimes misused for the disposal of paint, motor oil, antifreeze, pesticides, and other wastes. People are looking for a convenient place to dispose of these items and often are not aware that storm drains lead to nearby streams, rivers, lakes, or even sinkholes, which are conduits to groundwater. In addition, each time it rains water runoff carries street litter, yard debris, pet wastes, and

other pollutants into storm drains. This “nonpoint source pollution” is a significant source of contamination for Missouri’s water resources.



● Each year in the United States, do-it-yourself motor oil changers improperly dispose of 192 million gallons of used motor oil into our environment. One gallon of used motor oil can contaminate 1 million gallons of water.

● Antifreeze is primarily composed of ethylene glycol, a sweet and poisonous compound which can kill or injure pets, birds, fish, and other wildlife when disposed of carelessly into the environment. It can also contain heavy metal contaminants picked up from engines during use.

● Paint, even latex paint, can contain a variety of hazardous ingredients including lead, mercury, and organic solvents.

● Soap suds from washing the car, rinse water from paint clean-up, pet waste, cigarette butts, litter, pesticide and fertilizer runoff, and yard wastes can all cause environmental problems when discharged into waterways via storm drains.

## You Can Help!

To receive a Storm Drain Stenciling Kit, fill out the attached Agreement and send it to the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). The kit will contain mylar stencils and detailed instructions on how to stencil storm drains, provide safety instructions for participants, and inform the community. The kit also includes a sample news release and a flyer to distribute to homes in the stenciled area.

**Storm drains can be stenciled only after receiving the necessary permission from the proper authorities, when the roads are dry, and the temperature is over 50° F.**

## How It Works

1. Your group will identify a community, subdivision, or cluster of streets to start your stenciling project. Locate the storm drains in the target area and the neighborhood streams, rivers, or lakes that might be at risk from improper disposal.
2. Plan to spend 6-8 weeks in activity preparations. Your group must obtain permission from the entity that has jurisdiction over the storm drains. This may include one or more entities, such as the city council, a neighborhood association, or the street department. You must obtain any necessary permits, licenses, and insurance.
3. Your group must acquire stenciling supplies, such as flyers, latex paint, brushes, garbage bags, safety vests, traffic cones and flags, and maps. A more specific list of needed materials will be included with the kit. Local sponsors should be encouraged to provide these supplies and to assist with the promotion and safety of the stenciling project.
4. Alert the local media about your activities so that the message will reach a greater

number of people. Provide specific information about times, locations, and contacts. You may want to use the sample news release included in the kit.



5. When ready to stencil, you can divide into small groups of three to five participants. Youth Teams should have at least one supervising adult per group. Each group should receive a stencil, supplies, and a map with the locations of the storm

drains they have permission to stencil.

6. At the storm drain site, each group can collect trash for proper disposal.
7. Within the group, participants can take turns painting, holding the stencil, and watching for traffic. Each storm drain will take about 15 minutes to stencil.
8. When the stenciling in an area is complete, your groups can distribute flyers to nearby homes. A flyer will be included in the kit. The stenciled message is expected to last for approximately two years, so the reminder will continue beyond this stenciling event.
9. After the stenciling event, complete a STREAM TEAM activity report and turn it in to MDC.

## For More Information

Write or call:  
Stream Team  
Mo. Dept. of Conservation  
P.O. Box 180  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
1-800-781-1989 (voice mail) or  
573-751-4115 ext. 3169

# Storm Drain Stenciling Project Agreement

Instructions: Please fill out this agreement and return it to: **Storm Drain Stenciling, Missouri Department of Conservation, Stream Unit, PO Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180**. For additional information, call 1-800-781-1989 (voice mail) or (573)751-4115. *You must submit this agreement to receive a storm drain stenciling kit.*

STREAM TEAM number \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_

Community or City to be stenciled \_\_\_\_\_

Number of stencils needed. Estimate 5 participants per stencil. The mylar stencil can be used repeatedly and the stenciled message is expected to last for approximately two years. \_\_\_\_\_

I am authorized to act on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of organization, hereinafter referred to as "Sponsor"). I have carefully read and I understand the description of the Storm Drain Stenciling Project (hereinafter referred to as "the Project"). In consideration of the Sponsor's participation in the Project, I hereby acknowledge and assume the following responsibilities:

1. Participants in the Project are solely under the supervision of the Sponsor.
2. Sponsor will train each participant in pedestrian and other relevant safety rules. All participants will be evaluated by the Sponsor to determine if they are responsible individuals who will abide by the pedestrian safety rules and use due care and caution while participating in the Project.
3. Stencils and instructions will be provided, which the Sponsor insures will be used only as intended.
4. Sponsor will procure all necessary permits, licenses, and insurance, and consult with the appropriate authorities to obtain permission to stencil storm drains prior to commencing the Project.
5. Sponsor will complete and submit a STREAM TEAM activity report form to MDC following the completion of the Project.
6. Sponsor agrees to indemnify and hold the Missouri Department of Conservation, Conservation Federation of Missouri, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and all organizations that have contributed to the Project harmless for any damage or liability arising out of Sponsor's participation in the project.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Organization or group \_\_\_\_\_

Though much effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained herein, the organizations that contributed to this publication assume no responsibility for and disclaim any injury or damage resulting from the use or effect of any product, information, or participation in the Storm Drain Stenciling Project specified in this publication.